

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koji TANAKA *et al.*
Title: MOTORIZED SEAT BELT RETRACTOR
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: Herewith
Examiner: John Quoc NGUYEN
Art Unit: 3654

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the U.S. PTO in parent application Serial No. 09/838,281, filed April 20, 2001. As provided in 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office in the above-identified parent application

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The relevance of documents is explained in the parent application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11/17/2003

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| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: November 17, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | Unassigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | Herewith |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Koji TANAKA et al. |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | 3654 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | John Quoc NGUYEN |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 086142/0612 |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | |

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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | A7 | DE | 199 09 938 | | Germany | 08/10/2000 | | Abstract |
| | A8 | EP | 0 680 856 | | Europe | 03/28/1995 | | Abstract |
| | A9 | WO | 95/27638 | | PCT | 10/19/1995 | | |
| | A10 | WO | 96/25310 | | PCT | 08/22/1996 | | |
| | A11 | DE | 195 12 660 | | Germany | 10/19/1995 | | Abstract |
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| | A15 | JP | 2001-63519 | | Japan | 03/03/2001 | | Abstract |

| OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ⁶ |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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